

# MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS' TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE E-BULLETIN



## DEAR ALL!

The new year begins with dedication and progress for Ukraine's maritime community. Despite ongoing challenges, the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine (MTWTU) remains committed to supporting seafarers, cadets, and their families.

In January, we strengthened partnerships and expanded opportunities for young maritime professionals. MTWTU continued supporting Ukrainian cadets in Lithuania, engaged with the Shipping Register of Ukraine on industry issues, and celebrated the graduation of master's students in maritime law and management. We also met with Ukrainian seafarers abroad, including in Chisinau, to offer support and address their concerns.

As we move forward in 2025, MTWTU remains dedicated to protecting seafarers' rights, improving industry standards, and fostering international cooperation. Together, we will face challenges with resilience and unity.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Oleg Grygoriuk**

*Chairman MTWTU*

*IMO Goodwill Ambassador in Ukraine*

*Vice President of IFSMA*



## YOUTH-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES

The MTWTU supports young seafarers through a sponsorship program with the ITF Seafarers' Trust and Wilson. The program enables them to study at LMA under a dual-degree system, covering education costs and providing hands-on experience with industry professionals.

### STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR UKRAINIAN CADETS IN LITHUANIA



In January, the MTWTU delegation met with Ukrainian cadets from Kherson State Maritime Academy studying at the Lithuanian Maritime Academy. The discussion covered their training, career prospects, and challenges.

These in-person meetings allowed the Trade Union to provide direct support and address key concerns.

### CADETS GAIN ONBOARD EXPERIENCE AND CAREER INSIGHTS

A visit to the WILSON GIJON in the Port of Klaipeda became a key highlight for cadets, offering them firsthand experience aboard a vessel. Guided by the crew and company representatives, they gained valuable insights into onboard duties, vessel operations, and professional expectations for future seafarers.



Cadets also met with MTWTU Chairman Oleg Grygoriuk and senior management to discuss career prospects and professional growth. The day ended with team-building activities, strengthening ties with industry professionals.



## SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF MARITIME PROFESSIONALS

In addition to the meetings in Klaipeda, an important event for future maritime professionals took place in Odesa. The Maritime Union Center hosted the graduation ceremony for master's students from the Educational and Scientific Institute of Maritime Law and Management of the National University “Odesa Maritime Academy”.

MTWTU congratulates the graduates and wishes them success in their careers, emphasizing their role in Ukraine’s maritime industry and future development.



## SEAFARERS’ SOCIAL LIFE

### MTWTU MEETS SEAFARERS IN CHISINAU: SUPPORT WITHOUT BORDERS

MTWTU, with ITF Seafarers' Trust support, held a meeting in Chisinau for Ukrainian seafarers abroad, providing updates on union support during wartime. Following similar events in Varna and Bucharest, the gathering reinforced MTWTU’s commitment to unity and assistance, regardless of distance.



## SEAFARER'S DAY 2025: ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT AT SEA



The IMO's 2025 Seafarer's Day will focus on tackling violence and harassment in the maritime industry. Addressing this, MTWTU discussed the issue at the Chisinau meeting, sharing real cases and seafarers' experiences to highlight the importance of zero tolerance. An ITF inspector's assistant provided guidance on reporting and legal protections, emphasizing the need for a safe and inclusive workplace.

## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR SEAFARERS

MTWTU continues to prioritize members' well-being. At a Chisinau meeting, a psychologist led a session on mental health, addressing stress, isolation, and emotional resilience. Seafarers highlighted the importance of such discussions, especially for those far from home. MTWTU remains committed to supporting its members both professionally and personally.



## INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL COOPERATION

### MTWTU MEETS WITH THE SHIPPING REGISTER OF UKRAINE TO DISCUSS INDUSTRY CHALLENGES

Representatives of the Shipping Register of Ukraine, led by General Director Sergiy Hursky, visited the MTWTU office for a working meeting. They discussed key issues affecting maritime workers, safety at sea, and the industry's future amid current challenges.

The meeting was another step in fostering dialogue and strengthening cooperation between the organizations. MTWTU remains committed to building partnerships aimed at addressing key issues within the maritime community and ensuring the industry's stable development.



#### FOR MORE DETAILS

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